

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are currently amended.

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and for clarity.

Support for the amendment is found in the claims and specification, as originally filed.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-8 will be active.

No new matter is believed to have been added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is requested.

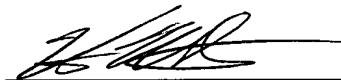
Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)



Stephen G. Baxter, Ph.D.
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 32,884

Vincent K. Shier, Ph. D.
Registration Number 50,552